



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Atsushi KANEDA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1794

Application No.: 10/533,449

Examiner: N. GUGLIOTTA

Filed: May 2, 2005

Docket No.: 123699

For: HONEYCOMB STRUCTURE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the September 1, 2009 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 24 and 25 are pending in this application.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

A. Ishihara, Shaffer, and Hamanaka

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as having been obvious over EP 1251247 A1 to Ishihara et al. ("Ishihara"), as evidenced by U.S. Patent No. 4,904,625 to Shaffer et al. ("Shaffer"), in view of WO 2002/074417 to Hamanaka et al. ("Hamanaka"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a honeycomb structure where "a Young's modulus of the plugging material is lower than that of the cell wall, [and] a porosity of the plugging material is 105% or more with respect to a porosity of the cell wall." The applied references do not disclose and would not have rendered obvious these claim features.